

## Frequently Asked Questions – Health Facility Construction

### Architectural

**All code sections cited are based on the 2007 California Building Code (CBC), unless otherwise noted.**

**1. Does OSHPD allow the use of modular toilet/sink combination units in health facilities?**

Yes, but only in Intensive Care Units. Section 1224.29.1.4 allows the use of modular toilet/sink combinations units in Intensive Care Units. The 2007 CBC states that the toilet fixture must be completely contained within cabinetry when not in use and exhaust ventilation requirements must comply with the 2007 California Mechanical Code.

**2. What are the requirements for Electronic Medical Records (EMR) in health care facilities?**

Section 1224.21.2 requires that hospitals provide a health record service that contains a work area for sorting and recording either paper or electronic media records and a storage area for either paper or electronic media records. Both the work area and the storage area must be indicated on the construction plans for OSHPD review.

Active and inactive medical records may be located off-site if approved by the Department of Health Services. Medical record availability requirements are found in Section 70751 (f) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations which states: *“Medical records shall be filed in an easily accessible manner in the hospital or in an approved medical record storage facility off the hospital premises.”* The Department of Health Services, Licensing and Certification (L&C) is authorized to approve the “off-site” storage of medical records, whether the records are active or inactive. For new construction or a relevant remodeling project, OSHPD must receive a copy of the L&C approval letter if the electronic medical records system is “off the hospital premises”. If the EMR computer server is located in the hospital, OSHPD must review the server location, anchorage, fire and life safety requirements, mechanical requirements, and electrical requirements.